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DATE MAILED: 10/23/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/002,789	11/26/2001	Todd Evan Schlesinger	ASE0101	5318
7: Max Stul Opp	590 10/23/2002 Denheimer		EXAM	INER
P.O. Box 50 Stevenson, MD			FLETCHER, MARLON T	
<b>5</b>			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2837	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) Claim(s) 8-12 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-20 is/are rejected.  7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.	* 10 mm f		a ne						
## Examiner		Application No.	pplicant(s)						
Marton T Fletcher   2837		10/002,789	SCHLESINGER	٠. ا					
Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Elementor of time may be available under the provisions of 3 CPR 1.39(a). In no event, however, may a reply be linely filled allered SIX (8) MONTH(S) from the malling date of able communication.  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  THE MAILING DATE of the malling date of able communication allered SIX (8) MONTH ST to the basing date of able communication.  Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by attained, period and in the statutory minimum of theiry (50) days will be considered directly.  Any reply sected by the Official bids in the remaining date of the communication, which is a statutory within the set or extended period for reply will, by attained, exame the application is become AIMMONTO (50 LSC 4 SIX).  Any reply sected by the Official bids in the original date of the communication, which is a statutory in the provision of the provision of the section of the provision of the communication.  1) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) Claim(s) 1-20 Island period in the provision of the date of the provision of the drawing(s) be hald in abeyance. See 37 CPR 1.85(a).  1) The proposed drawing correction field on	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit						
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THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extendinos of term may be available under the provisions of 3 CPR 1-136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MCNTHS from the mailing date of this communication. The provision of the provis	office for fields								
1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2001.  2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.  3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) Claim(s) 8-12 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-20 is/are rejected.  7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  Application Papers  9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.  12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120  13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) All b) Some coll None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 (no provisional application).  a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 (no a provisional application).  a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  15) Acknowled	<ul> <li>THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</li> <li>Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.</li> <li>If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).</li> <li>Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</li> </ul>								
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claims 1-7 and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hebestreit et al. (5,907,113) in view of Ito (5,578,775).

Hebestreit et al. disclose a musical instrument string, comprising a core and a polymer surface treatment adhered to a pre-selected portion of the surface of said core as discussed in the abstract, wherein said pre-selected portion is substantially the entire length of said core as discussed in the abstract and as seen in figures 2 and 4, wherein said polymer surface is PTFE as discussed in column 7, lines 19-67.

Hebestreit et al. do not disclose vapor or nucleated treatment.

However, Ito discloses a method vapor plating and ion (nucleation) plating as discussed in column 2, lines 62-65.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize the teachings of Ito with the apparatus of Hebestreit et al., because Ito along with the teachings of Hebesteit et al., merely provide other ways of applying the polymer (PTFE) surface to the string.

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## Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 8-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art fails to provide the details of the method of applying the polymer or PTFE to the surface of the musical string as taught by the present invention.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hebestreit et al. (6,248,942)

Hebestreit et al. (5,883,319)

Hebestreit et al. (5,801,319)

Lazarus (4,539,228)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marlon T Fletcher whose telephone number is 703-308-0848. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Nappi can be reached on 703-308-3370. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Application/Control Number: 10/002,709

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Marion Letetcher Primary Examiner Art Unit 2837

MTF October 20, 2002